

Counted

making a change to the PLU file for an item with an associated EPL;
recording a command to print an overlay;
comparing the PLU descriptions file to the PLU file to determine the change; and
creating a print file for printing an overlay containing the change.

3. (Twice amended) A method of managing EPL overlay data as the EPL overlay data changes during operation of an EPL system in a store comprising the steps of:

copying a first set of PLU descriptions from a PLU file in the EPL system to a master overlay data file;
copying a first set of EPL data from an EPL data file in the EPL system for a first set of EPLs associated with the first set of PLU descriptions to the master overlay data file;
recording a command to print overlays;
copying a second set of PLU descriptions from the PLU file to a temporary overlay data file;
copying a second set of EPL data from the EPL data file for a second set of EPLs associated with the second set of PLU descriptions to the temporary overlay data file;
comparing the master overlay data file to the temporary overlay data file to determine a third set of PLU descriptions that are different from the first set of PLU descriptions and a third set of EPL data that are different from the first set of EPL data; and
creating a print file for printing overlays containing the third set of PLU descriptions and the third set of EPL data.

4. (Twice amended) A method of managing EPL overlay data as the EPL overlay data changes during operation of an EPL system in a store comprising the steps of:

Cont'd

creating an EPL data file containing PLU descriptions from a PLU file in the EPL system

and EPL data;

making a change to the EPL data file;

marking the change;

recording a command to print an overlay;

reading the EPL data file for the marked change; and

creating a print file for printing an overlay containing the change.

6. (Twice amended) A system for managing EPL overlay data as the EPL overlay

J
B
data_changes during operation of an EPL system comprising:

a number of storage media for storing a PLU file and an EPL data file; and

a store based computer which determines a change in the PLU file or the EPL data file in the EPL system, and which creates a print file for printing an overlay for the change in the PLU file and EPL data file.

REMARKS

The present amendment replies to the Official Action mailed July 10, 1998. That action rejected claims 1-15 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based upon Kosarew U.S. Patent No. 5,619,416 (Kosarew). Claims 16, 17 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Kosarew.

Claims 2-4 and 6 have been amended to be more clear and distinct. Claims 1-19 are presently pending. Each of the grounds of rejection is addressed below following a brief description of the present invention to provide context.

The Present Invention

The present invention relates generally to improvements related to electronic displays, such as electronic price labels (EPLs). More particularly, the present invention relates to